

# TeguTalk

Tegu Talk is the newsletter of Jim & Teri Riley, missionaries making disciples & edifying churches in & around Tegucigalpa, Honduras.

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*Fogón or kitchen stove at home of new discovery study in village near CRC*



## Acts of Defiance & Reliance

*CRC, Las Crucitas, Tegucigalpa*

Now I'm in trouble," I thought as the 3/4 inch water valve came off in my hand and a torrent of water shot past my head. Ainey, one of the women's conference speakers, had painstakingly cleaned out Camp Bagope's baptistry and asked me for help filling it. I managed to make a PVC plug for the 2 inch drain, and had the watchman reveal the location of the elusive control valve.

The large, rectangular cement baptistry had been built on the back of the chapel with two sets of stairs. Now it had a few untended cracks and glass shards from a broken window embedded in the grass at the foot of one of the stairs. We repaired the valve, picked up the glass, and filled the tank to the top twice because it leaked some overnight.

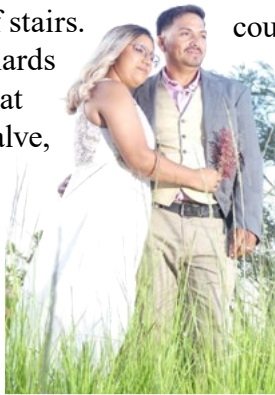
I could not help thinking of how the state of disrepair of this central fixture of this camp ground testifies to the way Honduran pastors neglect the acts of baptism and marriage.



Many leaders will not teach or practice baptism for fear of baptizing someone who could later bring shame on their ministry by stumbling in their new faith. Similarly many couples who come to Christ can not get married because of a church policy or a pastor's reluctance. One local pastor said, "If we marry one couple in our church, then other couples would follow which would mean extra work." Some churches only marry baptized members, while other churches only baptize people married in the church.

So we on occasion have had the honor of marrying couples that others won't or of baptizing folks who have been waiting for a pastor to allow it. In some cases, it is literally an act of defiance for these people to follow God's commands and prompting.

Our meddling with the status quo can lead to awkward moments and, sadly, even church discipline as disciples strive to follow Christ where their leaders are not willing to take them. Exploding valves and dirty leaky baptistries are only symptoms of the problem.



*Maiky & Jim baptize Siloe*

*Teri & Reina baptize one of the ladies at the conference*

*Manuel & Maiky pray for three new Christians*

## Discovery Studies

*Roca de Refugio, Tegucigalpa*

It happened again. Two of the disciples of our disciples started a discovery study in the home of some of their close friends. Third generation disciples are signs of a healthy disciple making movement. So when Jony and Ana evangelized Darwin and Jessica and family with the help of our Thursday night team and then Jessica and Darwin started a study with Angelina and her family, we celebrated God at work.

Our team plans to start new discovery studies with three young ladies who are neighbors to the Church while we are in the U.S. for Josh and "Janet's" wedding. These three young people attended the women's conference and accepted the challenge to follow fervently after Christ.



# Making

## Fervent Woman's Conference 2023

Lake Yojoa, Honduras

Each year since 2011, Teri has had the privilege of organizing the annual women's conference.

Over the last two years, she has been passing the baton to three capable Honduran women. The three ladies did a fantastic job of taking on more responsibility.

The women and girls were challenged to be fervent in prayer for themselves, their families and others and to be vigilant and valiant in our spiritual struggle against our adversary. Many women expressed afterward that they felt God moving in this conference in a special way.

221 women, teens and girls from over 31 Central American churches rode in on busses, vans and cars. While most of women came from Honduras, 17 came from three churches in Guatemala. Several US missionary ladies working in Honduras participated, as well as at least one representative from Mexico, El Salvador, Costa Rica, and Panama.

## Life of Christ Crew on Book 2

Roca de Refugio, Tegucigalpa

Larry, Yessenia, René, Magda, Josué and Brenda just passed their final exams with high marks! In book two of this training, they will study John the Baptist, Christ's baptism and temptation, along with all the events in John chapters 1-4. They will also be challenged to apply what they are learning in the Church and in the community. God has sent us some really bright disciples this time.

Larry is very tall for a Honduran at over 6' 3". He likes to read and is the father of two young boys. Carmen Yessenia, Larry's wife who is a lawyer, both have joined the praise team at Roca de Refugio. Larry plays piano and Yessenia sings.

Brenda is a mom and a house wife who has found a place to minister in the kitchen at Roca de Refugio. She also gives of her time to facilitate Discovery Bible Studies in homes and is often caught cleaning the church with other volunteers.

René drives a taxi and together with his wife Magda have two boys. Magda works at the University and their oldest boy José at only 10 years old is one of our brightest students. The three of them also lead a Discovery study up the street from their house.

They are all eager to learn more from Jesus.

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# Disciples

The 12 woman team from the mid-west did an outstanding job. They unloaded, arranged and decorated the camp. They welcomed, encouraged and prayed for everyone involved. The team taught the main sessions and some of the workshops. They planned and setup the worship stations and cooked hundreds of treats for the women and girls.

Pray for Teri now as she organizes a pastors' wives' retreat in Guatemala this November. It will be the first one for most of these special sisters.

## Join Teri at 1st US Conference

Mark your calenders. Teri and the ladies will be hosting their first US women's conference on April 19-21 of 2024. Please let your church's women's group know about this neat opportunity at Maranatha Bible Camp and Retreat Center in Everton, Missouri.

## Josh's Wedding Next Week!

Gore, Oklahoma

It is finally going to happen, Lord willing. September 30th at 4 pm in Teri's parents' backyard, Josh and "Mera" will be married. Her name is Yaneth Merari Rodrigues, but she likes to be called "Janet" or "Mera" [pronounced closer to Meda]. Josh has known she is the one for the past seven years. Thank you all who prayed for Mera to get the fiance visa, and then praying again for the US embassy to return her passport with the visa printed in it. After 2 years of processing the K1 visa, she flew up to the US and passed right through immigration without a hitch. Josh drove down to meet her plane in Arkansas.

We are so thankful that the wife we have prayed for since Josh was born, will finally become part of our family. If you are free that day, come on by! You are definitely invited! Josh will continue working and studying in Joplin, Missouri. Mera who is a bilingual school teacher will begin her residency paperwork and then will apply for US citizenship.





# In Honduras

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## ✓ Prayer Checklist

### Pray with us for:

- Darwin and Jessica as they continue their new walk with the Lord.
- The leadership of the three church plants.
- Those who have recently been baptized and those who are currently in discovery studies
- The three teen girls that decided to be baptized and their families and friends.
- Our son, Josh and Janet as they start their new lives as a married couple.
- Our daughter, Jeni's paperwork to go through so that she can work as a nurse in Honduras & that the Honduras government will give her an internship in or around Tegucigalpa.
- Our son, Jimmy as he studies at Ozark Christian College and works in Joplin.
- Our daughter, Jesi's pregnancy number three.
- That more Honduran Christians will be bold and share the good news with friends and family
- Our long time Honduran friend Belinda and family with the loss of their father, Don Alonzo.
- For all the men that God will send to our Men's camp at CRC the first weekend of October.
- A small team of men is coming in mid October to do some construction at CRC.

### ■ Praise God with us that:

- Janet had no problems whatsoever in coming into the country nor with immigration.
- Our son, Josh, and Janet will finally be married September 30th Lord willing.
- Many have been baptized this summer.
- The women's conference was a great success. The US team did a fabulous job as well as did the Honduran leadership team.
- New families are open to receive discovery Bible studies in their homes.

## 8 Hours of Life & Death

### Tegucigalpa, Honduras

We scheduled Darwin and Jessica's wedding for Sunday morning to be included as part of a special sermon at Roca de Refugio. The light lunch that typically follows our Sunday service doubled as a reception for the 30 something parents of 3 girls.

After lunch we drove out as planned to the river near CRC to baptize the bride and groom. Then Jim and a few disciples headed to a cemetery, while Teri took the couple and their family to their home. Jim arrived in time to give a short devotional that kicked off a time where family and friends spoke in memory of Don Alonzo (teammate, Belinda Gomez's father) and encouraged, exhorted and evangelized those present. This was not a normal day but a good one.



## Support Team

Checks for the work can be made out to Nortonville Christian Church with *Honduras Mission* in the memo & sent to:

**Nortonville Christian Church**  
**PO Box 347**  
**Nortonville, Kansas 66060**

We really appreciate each of you. Sometimes we feel like we are in a serious battle. Knowing you all are praying for us, helps us put on the armor each day.

*Jim & Teri Riley*